

A New *Ranunculus* from Crater Lake, Oregon

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In 1896, Edward L. Greene described a new species of *Ranunculus* from Crater Lake. Following the description he remarks, "A very neat and very well marked new *Ranunculus* altogether resembling a small *Ficaria*." During the last several years the author has collected a large series of this supposedly new and well-marked species not only from the type locality but also from the surrounding territory. The differences described by Greene have not been found, and from this fact it is supposed that Greene based his description on abnormal specimens.

Following is the description given by Greene (*Pittonia* III: 91, 1896):

"Ranunculus gormanii. Small and slender perennial, with a fascicle of thick but long and slenderly tapering fleshy-fibrous roots; leaves on almost filiform petioles 1 to 3 inches long, the lamina broadly ovate, or deltoid-ovate, acute, coarsely few-toothed, 1/2 to 3/4 inch long, only the petioles somewhat pilose-hairy; Stems several, prostrate at the base, rooting, and bearing leaves at 2 or 3 nodes, the terminal part naked, ascending and scapiform, bearing a solitary small flower; sepals spreading; petals 5, oblong, obtuse, twice the length of the sepals; achenes small, glabrous, moderately compressed, with a slender curved beak as long as the body."

The type locality is given as, "On moist banks at Cathedral Springs, Crater Lake, in southern Oregon, 22 Aug., 1896, collected by Mr. M. W. Gorman." While the name Cathedral Springs is no longer in use, the locality may be identified as the springy bogs at the base of Castle Crest (formerly Cathedral Rocks) which is easily accessible just above Park Headquarters.

The italics in the description given above indicate those features which are not found in the series of the author's specimens. In spite of several years of intensive collecting in and around the type locality, no "typical" specimens have been seen. Since there is but a single species of low, creeping *Ranunculus* in the vicinity, it is here proposed to recharacterize

Greene's species as based on more adequate and normal material.

Ranunculus terrestris sp. nov. A small, delicate perennial, growing in damp or swampy places, from a fascicle of thick but long and slenderly tapering fleshy-fibrous roots; leaves on delicate, almost filiform petioles; petioles of the basal leaves 1-4 inches long, those of the cauline leaves $1/4$ to 1 inch long or sometimes the terminal pair of leaflets sessile, somewhat sparsely pilose-hairy; the lamina broadly ovate or deltoid, rarely lanceolate, sometimes almost round, usually obtuse at the apex but sometimes rounded, very rarely acutish, perfectly entire, $1/4$ to $3/4$ inch long, the larger ones rounded at the base delicately membranous, glabrous; stems several from the fascicle of fleshy roots, somewhat pilose-hairy, simple or with a few very rudimentary branches, prostrate for most of its length erect or ascending at the terminal part, very rarely having a few delicate rootlets from the prostrate nodes; the erect terminal part usually with a pair of approximately opposite leaves, which are sometimes sessile and very much reduced, bearing a single small waxy-yellow flower 8mm. wide when fully open; petals 5 oblong or orbicular, twice the length of the sepals; achenes small, glabrous, moderately compressed, with a slender beak $1/2$ to $1/3$ the length of the body.

Differing from *Ranunculus flammula* var. *reptans* in the distinctly wider leaves and in somewhat longer styles.

Since Greene's plant is here regarded as merely an abnormal form of this proposed new species we would include it as a synonym.

The type has been deposited in the Herbarium of the University of Oregon as:— Wynd, no. 2086, Red Blanket Creek in the southwest corner of Crater Lake National Park. Other specimens in the University of Oregon Herbarium which have been examined and referred to this species are those of Sheldon, no. S12457, Lake Valley, Lane County, Oregon, July 17, 1903.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON HERBARIUM